



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

July 26, 2005

S. 1340

A bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to extend the date after which surplus funds in the wildlife restoration fund become available for apportionment

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on July 20, 2005*

S. 1340 would extend through fiscal year 2016 the authority to use certain amounts in the federal aid to wildlife restoration fund (known as the P-R fund) for waterfowl conservation grants carried out under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). Enacting S. 1340 would have no effect on the federal budget because the amounts that the bill would make available for NAWCA grants (estimated to be between \$10 million and \$30 million annually over the next 10 years) will be spent for other grant programs in the absence of this legislation.

Under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act), excise taxes collected on certain hunting equipment are deposited into the P-R fund and are available without further appropriation for grants to states. The Pittman-Robertson Act requires that interest earned through fiscal year 2005 on balances in that fund be used to finance waterfowl conservation projects authorized under NAWCA. After 2005, such earnings will become available for wildlife conservation grants under the Pittman-Robertson Act; S. 1340 would make them available, instead, for waterfowl conservation grants. Because the interest earnings will be spent without further appropriation action for one grant program or the other, CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would have no net effect on federal spending. Enacting S. 1340 would not affect other direct spending programs or revenues.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.